

Dear Sirs:

As a former broadcaster with over 30 years in the business, I must take exception to the NAB's petition to stop satellite radio (XM in particular) from broadcasting traffic and weather- and for that matter, anything else. I have found that local radio stations provide a reasonable amount of information, but frequently not at a time that is convenient to my listening habits. When available, I do listen to local radio for local traffic and weather information.

But, I must be candid, there is very little entertainment value in local radio...it seems all the local stations have become carbon copies of one another, with very little of interest to me. Why anyone would listen to 20 minutes of advertising per hour, only to hear the same forty songs over-and-over while putting up with mediocre talent (I live in rural Maine), eludes me.

May I suggest that if people are willing to invest in equipment that allows satellite radio into their vehicles and homes AND pay a monthly fee to provide the service...then something might be wrong in am/fm radioland!

I expect that NAB and its membership might be better served by concentrating on fixing their problems rather than attacking one of the few positive developments in mass media in the last 40 years.

Sincerely,

Kent Thurston
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